

OREGON—STATE HOUSE AND LIBRARY.

MEMORIAL

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF OREGON TERRITORY,

ASKING

Appropriations for the erection of a state-house, and the purchase of a library.

APRIL 17, 1856.—Referred to the Committee on the Territories.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Oregon, respectfully represents, that on or about the twenty-ninth day of December, 1855, during a recess of the present session of the assembly, the capitol building of this Territory, located at Salem, the seat of government, was destroyed by fire, together with the Territorial library, furniture, &c. That the said capitol was but partially completed, and that an appropriation made by Congress for the completion of the same remains yet, in part, unexpended, to the amount of about seventeen thousand dollars. Your memorialists further represent, that the Territorial library had, by order of the assembly, a few days previous to said conflagration, been removed into the room in the capitol building designed for that purpose; that said library was entirely consumed, as well as other things of value to the Territory, then in said building.

Your memorialists also set forth that the origin of said fire is to us unknown; no facts having been revealed which would warrant your memorialists in any assertion in regard thereto.

In consideration, therefore, of the foregoing facts, and that this Territory is entirely deprived of any building suitable for holding the sessions of the legislative assembly, supreme court, &c., and wholly destitute of a Territorial library, your memorialists would humbly, but earnestly, pray your honorable body to make an appropriation of *twenty thousand dollars*, to be expended in procuring a library for

this Territory, and an additional sum of *fifty thousand dollars*, to be added to the sum remaining unexpended, as aforesaid, to be applied to the erection of a capitol or state-house at such place as now is, or hereafter may be, established by law as the seat of government of this Territory.

And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Passed the council, January 29th, 1856. Passed the house, January 30th, 1856.

DELAZON SMITH,
Speaker of the Ho. of Reps.
A. P. DENNISON,
President of the Council.

TERRITORY OF OREGON, ss :

I, B. F. Harding, secretary of the Territory of Oregon, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and perfect copy of the original memorial now on file in my office.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed [L. s.] the seal of the Territory at Salem, this 12th day of February, A. D. 1856.

B. F. HARDING,
Secretary of Territory of Oregon.